

Throughout my service in Congress, I have been working to ensure retirement security by strengthening Social Security, and to improve critically important public health programs like Medicare. I am dedicated to searching for innovative ways to make Social Security and Medicare even more effective.

I believe that Social Security is the guaranteed backbone of many Americans' retirement; and that, therefore, preserving and protecting it for current and future generations must be a national priority. Social Security is not facing an immediate crisis, but a long-term imbalance between projected outlays and projected revenue. A comprehensive solution to Social Security's long-term financial challenges will require all of us working together to find a balanced solution that will strengthen the program and ensure its future sustainability.

Regarding Medicare, I supported the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act of 2008 that enhances Medicare coverage of preventive health care, assures more affordable mental health care, and helps ensure beneficiaries are able to access prescription drugs through pharmacies by mandating that prescription drug plans pay pharmacies promptly.

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